

Arlington Recycling Committee
Minutes of 12/3/15

PRESENT Co-Chair Juli Brazile, Co-Chair Gordon Jamieson, Recycling Coordinator Charlotte Milan, Ellen Callaway, Susan Stamps, Karen Einstein, Pete Howard

MINUTES of 11/8/15 approved as corrected.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Charlotte discussed her monthly report (Ref 1). Curbside solid waste tonnage is about the same as last year. ARC available expense balance is now \$2550. Monthly Recycling Center totals again increased. The Recycling Center will soon have a 40 ft. cargo container located in the DPW yard that will be set up as a permanent space with signage. This is a big step forward for the program and the ARC congratulated Charlotte for her successful efforts. A grant of \$18,000 was received from DEP for this work.

COMMUNITY COLLECTION DAY (CCD) Nov 14: All agreed that this was a very successful effort. The new organization worked well. 515 cars attended with minimal backups on the street. Charlotte was congratulated.

TRASH BARREL LIMIT: Juli provided a handout (Ref 2) which summarized the recent history of curbside trash collection tonnage. After the three barrel limit was established upon the initiation of the JRM contract, there was a 13% reduction in trash tonnage incinerated. In the following 2 ½ years since then there has been little or no change. In a recent Vision 2020 annual survey, 92% of responding households never used more than 2 barrels. This included the 6% of households that have more than 4 people. See Ref 3. Last Feb the ARC met with the DPW Director to discuss the limit on the number of barrels. He was reluctant to consider reducing the barrel limit though he recognized the need to improve diversion. Gordon again reminded the group that there is likely to be lots of public resistance to a 1 barrel limit but probably not much to a 2 barrel limit. Charlotte reminded the group that the barrels in this discussion must hold less than 34 gallons. The group voted (5-0-1) to recommend a limit of 64 gallons, which is the equivalent of two standard, 32- to 34-gallon trash barrels. Juli will draft a letter for review by the ARC to the DPW Director with a copy to the Town Manager requesting this change.

COMPOSTING PILOT: Susan called 8 people on the list Charlotte collected at the Farmer's Market over the summer and fall. 4 replied. Several were already sharing a compost bin. None were willing to recruit more neighbors. No one at the meeting had seen a letter on the A-list or other medium that Larry was going to write. Susan to craft a letter and to ask Larry for technical support. Neither Gordon, nor anyone else, had seen his article in the Advocate. He will follow up. We should refer people wanting to know more about how to compost to Charlotte.

BUSINESS RECYCLING: Juli provided a hard copy of a 2nd business survey. Yingzi has made a Google version. The group requested several changes. At the next Chamber of Commerce [CoC] board meeting, Juli will request the CoC to distribute a link to the survey with a cover request from Juli. At length, ARC's intention is to provide a list of haulers who offer recycling to the CoC mailing list. It is also the ARC's intention to follow up on responses to Q#7, regarding whether businesses wish to hold training session w/ Recycling Works.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP PROPOSAL: The group discussed appointing residents who attend meetings from time to time and become familiar to the activities of the ARC to become associate members. Juli to consult w/ Town Council.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES (not discussed - left over from last year)

- Bulky waste

- ACMI Recycling Series

- Mounting Recycled Beauty pictures in Town Hall Lobby

- Advocate Articles promised at previous meetings (not discussed):

- Larry: See something, Say something

- Erika: Life Cycle Issues

- Plastic bag restrictions locally

- Divert mattresses from waste stream

NEXT MEETING 1/7/16 - Meetings held 1st Thursday monthly at 7:30 PM in Town Hall Annex 1st Floor

Ref 1 Coordinator's Report

Ref 2 Trash Limit Discussion – Background Information

Ref 3 Number of Trash Barrels On Curb vs Size of Household

Ref 4 Business Recycling Survey

| Recycling Center progress | | Foam | Rigid Plastic | E-Waste |
|---------------------------|----------|-------|---------------|------------------|
| June 2015 | 66 HH | 49 | 25 | 12 |
| July | 100 HH | 52 | 30 | 40 |
| August | 120 HH | 73 | 24 | 31 |
| September | 152 HH | 95 | 50 | 51 |
| October | 193 HH | 118 | 49 | 87 |
| Nov CCD #s | 515 cars | 30 cy | 20 cy | not yet reported |

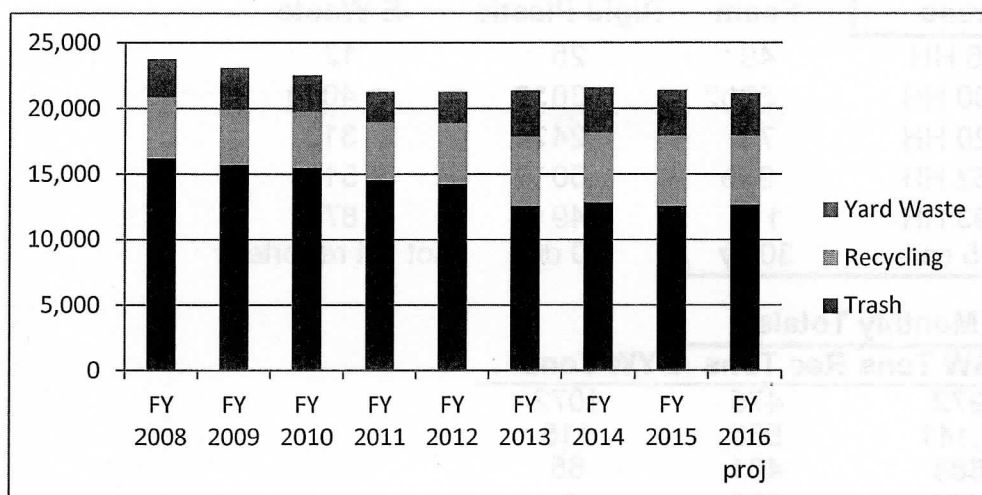
Municipal Solid Waste Monthly Totals

| Month | SW Tons | Rec Tons | YW Tons |
|--------------|---------|----------|---------|
| November | 972 | 475 | 1072 |
| December | 1,141 | 550 | 115 |
| Januray 2015 | 888 | 401 | 65 |
| February | 873 | 295 | 0 |
| March | 977 | 409 | 0 |
| April | 1,086 | 459 | 473 |
| May | 1,088 | 414 | 346 |
| June | 1,119 | 484 | 211 |
| July | 1,127 | 446 | 261 |
| August | 1,047 | 417 | 197 |
| September | 1,215 | 427 | 248 |
| October | 1,137 | 454 | 295 |

Arlington Municipal Solid Waste Tonnage by Waste Category

| | Trash | Recycling | Yard Waste |
|--------------|--------|-----------|------------|
| FY 2008 | 16,232 | 4,639 | 2,881 |
| FY 2009 | 15,740 | 4,165 | 3,216 |
| FY 2010 | 15,493 | 4,244 | 2,799 |
| FY 2011 | 14,538 | 4,395 | 2,332 |
| FY 2012 | 14,248 | 4,652 | 2,381 |
| FY 2013 | 12,603 | 5,278 | 3,503 |
| FY 2014 | 12,846 | 5,271 | 3,488 |
| FY 2015 | 12,603 | 5,297 | 3,506 |
| FY 2016 proj | 12,670 | 5,231 | 3,283 |

Arlington Recycling Committee
Recycling Coordinator Report, December 3, 2015



MA Solid Waste Master Plan targets: Arlington's progress

For Arlington to reach our share of the state's 2020 trash reduction goal we need to reduce trash by another 1,241 tons.

| Massachusetts Municipal Solid Waste Master Plan Goals | Arlington trash tonnage goal |
|---|------------------------------|
| Baseline MSW - 2008 | 16,232 tons-START |
| in FY16 we are @ | 12,649 tons |
| (30%) by 2020 | 11,362 tons |
| (80%) by 2050 | 3,246 tons |

ARC Expense Report

| Date | Purchase | Expense | Balance |
|------------|-------------------|----------|---------|
| 7/1/2015 | Start | | 3000 |
| 11/14/2015 | Foam | 250 proj | 2,750 |
| 11/14/2015 | Rigid bulk | 200 proj | 2,550 |
| 5/14/2016 | Foam | 250 proj | |
| 5/14/2016 | Rigid bulk | 200 proj | |
| ongoing | Compost bin share | 1000 | |

Program Updates

Yard Waste ended for the season. We're adding one drop-off day at Recycling Center on December 12th.

Recycling Center will add a 40' cargo container to protect visitors and materials from weather, while adding storage space for recycling supplies. Next event is Dec. 12 9:00 am to noon.

Curbside program analysis: DEP Technical Assistance grant received for help in analyzing the relative value of trash reduction measures. Bulky items and trash limits under review. 10% reduction in trash tonnage and earning MA DEP Recycling Dividend funds are the desired outcomes.

Curbside audit change: one barrel vs. one+ barrels street-side survey underway.

Recycle Right: No Plastic Bags in Recycling stickers are in...

Community Collection Day resulted in 515 visitors, not counting pedestrians and bikes-we should count them next year. Two lines, lots of volunteers, police and extra DPW staff helped reduce wait time for visitors. New set up largely successful and will stand as the model for May 2016 collection event.

Compost survey drafted and can be ready in next few weeks. Dallin

\$18,000
waiting for
accounting

Better after 100. Windy

Trash Limit Discussion - Background Information

July 2012 - New contract with JRM for trash, recycling, and yard waste included:

- Weekly recycling
- 3 barrel limit for trash
- Weekly yard waste (in season)
- Trash will not be collected unless recycling is put out as well

June 2013 (End of FY13) - Reduced trash tonnage, increased recycling/yard waste

- FY12 14,248 - Previous contract tonnage levels
- FY13 12,603 - New contract - Remained steady at this level

2014 - Vision 2020 'Census Insert Survey' - 34% of Arlington Households responded

- 92% of all households use 1 or 2 barrels
- 1% of all households have 5+ people and put out 3 barrels
- about 6% of households have 5+ people
- 81% of large households (5+ people) use 1 or 2 barrels

February 2015 - Meeting with DPW Director Mike Rademacher

- Discussion regarding reducing the barrel limit - Meeting minutes follow
- **RECYCLING GOALS:** Juli asked Mike if he supports 50% diversion as a goal. We discussed the fact that 50% diversion is expected to get us very close to the state's goal for 2020 of reducing trash by 30% from 2008 levels. Mike said to actively advocate for the goal he needs a plan that might succeed. The tip fee will drop from \$74 to \$63 on July 1, 2015, which makes a financial arguments and /or incentives harder to sell. He does not want to be seen as taking away a service unless he can provide something back to residents. He suggested that he expects little diversion payoff from going from the 3-barrel limit to 2 barrels. He is inclined to go directly, perhaps in steps, to 1 barrel, but would want to have a message beyond achieving an arbitrary goal. He seems to believe that many residents do not seriously recycle and so need more than 1 barrel. Some combination of diversion savings & DEP incentives is needed to justify pushing for more recycling. He sees no immediate threat of fines at North Andover for putting recyclables in the trash. He is aware of the threat posed by "costly" regulations to successful overrides. He is also aware of the issue of fairness to good recyclers who have to pay the price for burning recycled materials trashed by poor recyclers. Mike agrees that the Town needs to do something to improve diversion. He will work with the Town Manager.

1 barrel 2 barrels 3 barrels

| | | | |
|------------|------|-----|-----|
| 1-2 people | 2494 | 611 | 231 |
| 3-4 people | 1374 | 664 | 155 |
| 5-6 people | 147 | 117 | 54 |
| 7+ people | 2 | 7 | 9 |

92% use 1-2 barrels (5416)

1% are large hh and use 3 barrels

6% have 5+ people (336)

81% of large hh use 1 or 2 barrels (273)

T: 5865

Town of Arlington - Arlington Business Recycles

We would like to understand how Arlington businesses manage their trash and recycling. Please take a moment to fill out this short questionnaire.

Do you participate in the Town of Arlington Commercial Trash program?

☐ Yes

☐ No, I use a private hauler

If you checked yes, you have completed this questionnaire.

Please scroll to the bottom and click "Submit." Thank you!

If you checked no, please answer the following questions:

1. Who is your hauler?

☐ Bay State Disposal

☐ B-P Trucking

☐ E. L. Harvey & Sons

☐ EZ Disposal Service

☐ Food Grease Trappers Inc.

☐ JRM

☐ Miller Waste Industries

☐ Northside Carting

☐ Refuse Disposal

☐ Republic Services

☐ Waste Management

☐ Wind River Environmental

☐ Wellesley Trucking

☐ Other _____

2. How does your hauler pick up your trash?

☐ Curbside

☐ Dumpster

3. Does your hauler provide recycling services?

☐ Yes, and I am not charged extra for recycling services

☐ Yes, but I pay extra for recycling services

☐ No

4. What do you recycle (check all that apply)

☐ Cardboard

☐ Glass bottles

☐ Cans

☐ Plastic bottles or containers

☐ Newspaper

☐ Office Paper

☐ We do not recycle

☐ Other _____

5. Check off the statements that best describe the problems your business faces when looking at recycling. (check all that apply)

☐ It costs too much money.

☐ We don't have space inside to collect recycling.

☐ We don't have room for a second dumpster for recycling.

Please share any other thoughts you have: _____.

6. Which category best describes your business or industry?

- ☐ Restaurant
- ☐ Retail store
- ☐ Professional services
- ☐ Craft/Art/Studio business
- ☐ Other _____

7. Would you be interested in attending a free session by Recycling Works, a company that offers support to businesses who are starting recycling programs?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Business Contact Information

Before you click "Submit" below, please tell us a little about your business. We would like to use this information to better understand how different types of businesses manage their trash and recycling, and if some businesses have greater difficulty recycling due to their location. We hope to use this information to develop strategies to help Arlington businesses recycle more, but this step is optional.

Business Name * _____

Business Address * _____

Contact Name/Title _____

Contact Telephone Number _____

Contact Email _____

Thank you for your participation in this questionnaire!

Don't forget to click "Submit" so your information is saved.